

Message

From: Gillespie-Marthaler, Leslie [GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov]
Sent: 7/15/2021 7:56:08 PM
To: Risley, David [Risley.David@epa.gov]
CC: Melvin, Karen [Melvin.Karen@epa.gov]; Lippert, Allison [lippert.allison@epa.gov]; Thompson, Anita [Thompson.Anita@epa.gov]; Rogers, Rick [rogers.rick@epa.gov]; Pollins, Mark [Pollins.Mark@epa.gov]; King, Carol [King.Carol@epa.gov]; Crumlish, Karen [Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov]; Nitsch, Chad [Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov]; McLain, Jennifer L. [McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov]; Libertz, Catherine [Libertz.Catherine@epa.gov]; Harmon, Kenneth [Harmon.Kenneth@epa.gov]; Seneca, Roy [Seneca.Roy@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: PRESS INQUIRY: E&E News LSL removals, 2:30pm EST deadline

Thank you!

Leslie Gillespie-Marthaler, Ph.D.
Deputy Director
Water Division
USEPA Region 3
1650 Arch Street 3WD00
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-814-2735
GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov

From: Risley, David <Risley.David@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 15, 2021 3:55 PM
To: Gillespie-Marthaler, Leslie <GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov>
Cc: Melvin, Karen <Melvin.Karen@epa.gov>; Lippert, Allison <lippert.allison@epa.gov>; Thompson, Anita <Thompson.Anita@epa.gov>; Rogers, Rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov>; Pollins, Mark <Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>; King, Carol <King.Carol@epa.gov>; Crumlish, Karen <Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; McLain, Jennifer L. <McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Libertz, Catherine <Libertz.Catherine@epa.gov>; Harmon, Kenneth <Harmon.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Seneca, Roy <Seneca.Roy@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: PRESS INQUIRY: E&E News LSL removals, 2:30pm EST deadline

Got it. I'll try to get the update made.

David Risley
Office of Water Communications, Director
Risley.David@epa.gov
Office: 202-343-9177
Cell: 202-731-3068

On Jul 15, 2021, at 3:32 PM, Gillespie-Marthaler, Leslie <GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov> wrote:

Please see Karen's comment below in red. Sorry for the piecemeal responses –

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

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Leslie Gillespie-Marthaler, Ph.D.
Deputy Director
Water Division
USEPA Region 3
1650 Arch Street 3WD00

Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-814-2735
GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov

From: Melvin, Karen <Melvin.Karen@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 15, 2021 3:27 PM
To: Risley, David <Risley.David@epa.gov>; Gillespie-Marthaler, Leslie <GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov>
Cc: Lippert, Allison <lippert.allison@epa.gov>; Thompkins, Anita <Thompkins.Anita@epa.gov>; Rogers, Rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov>; Pollins, Mark <Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>; King, Carol <King.Carol@epa.gov>; Crumlish, Karen <Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; McLain, Jennifer L. <McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Libertz, Catherine <Libertz.Catherine@epa.gov>; Harmon, Kenneth <Harmon.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Seneca, Roy <Seneca.Roy@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: PRESS INQUIRY: E&E News LSL removals, 2:30pm EST deadline

**KAREN MELVIN, DIRECTOR
ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE DIVISION
US EPA, REGION 3
1650 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103
215-814-3275**

From: Risley, David
Sent: Thursday, July 15, 2021 3:24 PM
To: Gillespie-Marthaler, Leslie <GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov>
Cc: Lippert, Allison <lippert.allison@epa.gov>; Thompkins, Anita <Thompkins.Anita@epa.gov>; Rogers, Rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov>; Pollins, Mark <Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>; King, Carol <King.Carol@epa.gov>; Crumlish, Karen <Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov>; Melvin, Karen <Melvin.Karen@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; McLain, Jennifer L. <McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Libertz, Catherine <Libertz.Catherine@epa.gov>; Harmon, Kenneth <Harmon.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Seneca, Roy <Seneca.Roy@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: PRESS INQUIRY: E&E News LSL removals, 2:30pm EST deadline

This is what I sent to OPA:

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

David Risley

Office of Water Communications, Director
Risley.David@epa.gov
Office: 202-343-9177
Cell: 202-731-3068

On Jul 15, 2021, at 3:07 PM, Gillespie-Marthaler, Leslie
<GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov> wrote:

We sent this to HQ:

From: Seneca, Roy
Sent: Thursday, July 15, 2021 2:58 PM
To: Lippert, Allison <lippert.allison@epa.gov>
Cc: Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; White, Terri-A <White.Terri-A@epa.gov>;
Landis, Jeffrey <Landis.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Thompson, Anita
<Thompson.Anita@epa.gov>; 'McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov' <McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: PRESS INQUIRY: E&E News LSL removals, 2:30pm EST deadline
Importance: High

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

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Let us know if you need the region to send a response to the reporter.

Roy Seneca
EPA Region 3 Press Officer
Office of Public Affairs
seneca.roy@epa.gov
(215) 814-5567

Leslie Gillespie-Marthaler, Ph.D.
Deputy Director
Water Division
USEPA Region 3

1650 Arch Street 3WD00
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-814-2735
GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov

From: Risley, David <Risley.David@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 15, 2021 3:01 PM
To: Gillespie-Marthaler, Leslie <GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov>
Cc: Lippert, Allison <lippert.allison@epa.gov>; Thompkins, Anita <Thompkins.Anita@epa.gov>; Rogers, Rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov>; Pollins, Mark <Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>; King, Carol <King.Carol@epa.gov>; Crumlish, Karen <Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov>; Melvin, Karen <Melvin.Karen@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; McLain, Jennifer L. <McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Libertz, Catherine <Libertz.Catherine@epa.gov>; Harmon, Kenneth <Harmon.Kenneth@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: PRESS INQUIRY: E&E News LSL removals, 2:30pm EST deadline

Any update here?

David Risley
Office of Water Communications, Director
Risley.David@epa.gov
Office: 202-343-9177
Cell: 202-731-3068

On Jul 15, 2021, at 2:04 PM, Gillespie-Marthaler, Leslie <GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi all - Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP) We will try to work this simultaneously.

Leslie

Leslie Gillespie-Marthaler, Ph.D.
Deputy Director
Water Division
USEPA Region 3
1650 Arch Street 3WD00
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-814-2735
GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov

From: Lippert, Allison <lippert.allison@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 15, 2021 2:01 PM
To: Gillespie-Marthaler, Leslie <GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov>
Cc: Thompkins, Anita <Thompkins.Anita@epa.gov>; Rogers, Rick <rogers.rick@epa.gov>; Pollins, Mark <Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>; King, Carol <King.Carol@epa.gov>; Crumlish, Karen <Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov>; Melvin, Karen <Melvin.Karen@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; McLain, Jennifer L.

<McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Libertz, Catherine
<Libertz.Catherine@epa.gov>; Harmon, Kenneth
<Harmon.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Risley, David <Risley.David@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: PRESS INQUIRY: E&E News LSL removals, 2:30pm EST
deadline

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

On Jul 15, 2021, at 1:59 PM, Gillespie-Marthaler, Leslie
<GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov> wrote:

Thank you, Anita! We're on it. Looping in Chad Nitsch,
our OPA Director.

Leslie Gillespie-Marthaler, Ph.D.
Deputy Director
Water Division
USEPA Region 3
1650 Arch Street 3WD00
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-814-2735
GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov

From: Thompson, Anita <Thompson.Anita@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 15, 2021 1:57 PM
To: Gillespie-Marthaler, Leslie
<GillespieMarthaler.Leslie@epa.gov>; Rogers, Rick
<rogers.rick@epa.gov>; Pollins, Mark
<Pollins.Mark@epa.gov>; King, Carol
<King.Carol@epa.gov>; Crumlish, Karen
<Crumlish.Karen@epa.gov>; Lippert, Allison
<lippert.allison@epa.gov>; Melvin, Karen
<Melvin.Karen@epa.gov>
Cc: McLain, Jennifer L. <McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov>;
Libertz, Catherine <Libertz.Catherine@epa.gov>;
Harmon, Kenneth <Harmon.Kenneth@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: PRESS INQUIRY: E&E News LSL removals,
2:30pm EST deadline
Importance: High

Hi Folks,

We received this press inquiry and need your input
before 2:30pm EST.

Jennifer has drafted a proposed response below. Please
provide your input.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Thanks,
Anita

Anita Maria Thompkins
Director, Drinking Water Protection Division
Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC
Office Phone: 202-564-5673
EPA Cell: 202-281-8430

From: McLain, Jennifer L. <McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 15, 2021 1:47 PM
To: Lippert, Allison <lippert.allison@epa.gov>;
Thompkins, Anita <Thompkins.Anita@epa.gov>;
Bergman, Ronald <Bergman.Ronald@epa.gov>;
Burneson, Eric <Burneson.Eric@epa.gov>
Cc: Guilaran, Yu-Ting <Guilaran.Yu-Ting@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: PRESS INQUIRY: E&E News LSL removals,
2:30pm EST deadline

I think we need R3 and OECA's input and my
recommendation is that the response be something like
this:

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

From: Lippert, Allison <lippert.allison@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 15, 2021 1:28 PM
To: Thompkins, Anita <Thompkins.Anita@epa.gov>;
Bergman, Ronald <Bergman.Ronald@epa.gov>
Cc: McLain, Jennifer L. <McLain.Jennifer@epa.gov>

Guilaran, Yu-Ting <Guilaran.Yu-Ting@epa.gov>
Subject: PRESS INQUIRY: E&E News LSL removals,
2:30pm EST deadline

All, please advise on response - DDL is 2:30

Begin forwarded message:

From: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Date: July 15, 2021 at 1:13:45 PM EDT
To: "Risley, David"
<Risley.David@epa.gov>, "Lippert,
Allison" <lippert.allison@epa.gov>
Cc: "Fuld, John" <Fuld.John@epa.gov>
Subject: DDL 2:00 PM Today -- led
service lines-E&E News inquiry -
2:30pm EST deadline

Hi David and Allison,

Can you answer NLT 2:30?

Thank you!

Hi EPA team,
I'm writing about this release below.
Can you possibly tell me how many
times in the past EPA has issued
such an emergency administrative
order tied to lead service lines? I
understand it happened in Flint, but
that otherwise it's a rare move for
the agency to make. My deadline is
posted above.
Thanks very much, Hannah

R3Press@epa.gov
DHHRCommunications@wv.gov

**EPA orders Clarksburg to
identify homes,
businesses with lead
service lines**

PHILADELPHIA (July 15, 2021) – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued an emergency administrative order Wednesday afternoon directing the Clarksburg Water Board to identify homes and businesses with lead service lines and provide an alternative source of drinking water or filters certified to remove lead to all customers who may be impacted by the lead exposure.

EPA, in coordination with the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (WVDHHR), determined this action is necessary to protect public health after determining that conditions in the Clarksburg water system may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health.

The EPA order directs the Water Board to immediately identify homes that may be impacted and provide an alternate source of drinking water and/or point-of-use filters certified for lead removal for homeowners where elevated lead levels are known or where suspected lead service lines exist.

Additionally, the Water Board must provide EPA with a copy of its notification to the Clarksburg homeowners indicating steps they can take to reduce lead exposure and that an alternate water supply has been made available or that certified filters were provided. The Water Board must also keep a daily log of which homes have received alternative water or certified filters.

According to the order, the Water Board failed to timely notify the public about the risk of lead exposure as required in an administrative order issued by the WVDHHR on July 2. EPA's order reinforces the state's efforts, as well as re-affirming deadlines for work to be performed by the Water Board.

The WVDHHR issued a notice of violation on July 14 citing the Water Board for failing to comply with its July 2 order. Link to WVDHHR press release, which includes links to the notice of violation and WVDHHR's administrative order can be found here: <https://dhhr.wv.gov/News/2021/Pages/DHHR-Issues-Notice-of-Violation-to-Clarksburg-Water-Board.aspx>

The issue of lead service lines was first identified by staff in the WVDHHR's Bureau for Public Health's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program during environmental lead assessments conducted at the homes of children diagnosed with elevated blood lead levels. Drinking water sampling in several homes confirmed lead levels were above the EPA's action level.

The Clarksburg water system serves approximately 17,686 persons and has 7,913 service connections. In addition, the system provides water to other public water systems that serve an additional 38,225 persons.

Parents of children under age 6 who are living in older homes

served by the Clarksburg Water Board should discuss the risks of lead exposure with their child's pediatrician to determine if precautionary blood lead testing is needed.

Additional steps all consumers can take include flushing water lines used for drinking and cooking and using bottled water for making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water and should not be practiced for lead abatement.

For more information about lead in drinking water, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>

Link to EPA administrative order: <https://yosemite.epa.gov/oas/rhc/epaadmin.nsf/07a828025febe17885257562006fff58/c070540d207ab27d8525871300486660!OpenDocument>

#

Hannah M. Northey

Reporter

E&E News

hnorthey@eenews.net

734-709-1369 (mobile)

@HMNorthey

